

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 are presently pending in this case. In this preliminary amendment, Applicants have amended Claims 2-36, and have added new Claims 37-44. Applicants have also amended the instant Specification to correct various grammatical and typographical errors, to conform the format of the Specification to U.S. practice, and to include a Priority Claim. Support for amended Claims 2-36, as well as new Claims 37-44 can be found generally throughout the instant Specification, and particularly in Claims 1-36 as filed. Consequently, the instant Amendment introduces no new matter into the instant Application.

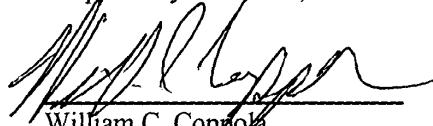
Fees

No fees are believed to be necessitated by the instant response. However, should this be in error, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account no. 18-1982 for any underpayment, or to credit any overpayments.

CONCLUSION

Early and favorable action on the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



William C. Coppola
Registration No. 41,686

AVENTIS PHARMACEUTICALS INC.
Route 202-206; Mail Stop: D-303A
P.O. Box 6800
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-0800

Docket Number: USAV2002/0065 USNP